

Turn Prohibition - Keele Street and George Appleton Way

Date: February 20, 2020

To: North York Community Council

From: Acting Director, Traffic Management, Transportation Services

Wards: Ward 6 - York Centre

SUMMARY

As the Toronto Transit Commission (TTC) operates bus service on Keele Street, City Council approval of this report is required.

Transportation Services is requesting that City Council approve a northbound right-turn prohibition at the intersection of Keele Street and George Appleton Way, from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m., and from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., Monday to Friday.

This prohibition is intended to discourage cut-through traffic during the morning and afternoon peak hours from using George Appleton Way and James Finlay Way to access eastbound Wilson Avenue. These motorists are avoiding northbound right-turn delays at the intersection of Keele Street and Wilson Avenue.

The implementation of the right-turn prohibition during the peak periods will prohibit cut-through by non-local motorists, however, the right-turn prohibition will also prohibit area residents from turning onto George Appleton Way from Keele Street.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Acting Director, Traffic Management, Transportation Services recommends that:

1. City Council prohibit northbound right-turns, from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., Monday to Friday, at the intersection of Keele Street and George Appleton Way.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

All costs associated with enacting the time of the turn prohibition are included within the Transportation Services 2020 Operating Budget.

DECISION HISTORY

This report addresses a new initiative.

COMMENTS

Transportation Services was requested by Councillor James Pasternak, on behalf of area residents, to install a right-turn prohibition during the peak periods at the intersection of Keele Street and George Appleton Way, to minimize cut through traffic.

Keele Street is classified as a major arterial roadway. The pavement width is approximately 25 metres wide at George Appleton Way with a raised median, a northbound left-turn lane, three northbound through lanes, a southbound shared through/right-turn lane and three southbound through lanes. It has a regulatory speed limit of 50 km/h. There are sidewalks on both sides of the street and the TTC operates the 41 Keele (north/south), 341 Keele Blue Night (north/south) and 941 Keele Express (south) bus routes on this section of Keele Street. The land use in the area is a mix of commercial properties, residential townhomes and apartment buildings.

George Appleton Way has a pending roadway classification. Sidewalks are provided on both sides of George Appleton Way and the speed limit is 50 km/h. Heavy vehicles are prohibited from using the roadway. Westbound left turns are prohibited from George Appleton Way to Keele Street, due to the raised centre median on Keele Street.

Table 1: Northbound Right Turns from Keele Street to George Appleton Way

	Northbound right turns from Keele Street to George Appleton Way				Total
AM	7:00-7:30	7:30-8:00	8:00-8:30	8:30-9:00	449
	98	97	107	147	
PM	4:00-4:30	4:30-5:00	5:00-5:30	5:30-6:00	429
	97	98	149	100	

Of the total 449 vehicles turning right onto George Appleton Way from Keele Street during the a.m. peak period, 429 of these vehicles (96 percent) were observed making a left turn from George Appleton Way onto James Finlay Way. The remaining 20 of these vehicles (4 percent) were observed making a right turn or continuing through the intersection of George Appleton Way and James Finlay Way. During the p.m. peak period, a total of 444 were observed making a northbound right turn from Keele Street onto George Appleton Way. We observed 404 of those vehicles (91 percent) making a left turn from George Appleton Way onto James Finlay Way and 40 of these vehicles (9

percent) were observed making a right turn or continuing through the intersection of George Appleton Way and James Finlay Way.

The installation of a northbound right-turn prohibition, at the intersection of Keele Street and George Appleton Way, from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., Monday to Friday will reduce the volume of cut-through traffic utilizing these street in order to proceed eastbound on Wilson Avenue in order to avoid the intersection of Keele Street and Wilson Avenue. The installation of the northbound right-turn prohibition will also adversely affect area residents and their guests, as this prohibition applies to local residents as well. In addition, it will cause greater delays at the intersection of Keele Street and Wilson Avenue as this short-cut option will be removed.

It should also be noted that George Appleton Way and James Finlay Way have been assessed for traffic calming and are the subject of a companion report to Community Council.

The Ward Councillor is aware of the recommendation of this staff report.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

Roger Browne, M.A. Sc., P.Eng
Acting Director, Traffic Management, Transportation Services

ATTACHMENT

Attachment 1: Map - Turn Prohibition - Keele Street and George Appleton Way

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